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## **\*\*\*PHOTO ADVISORY\*\*\***

### **Sen. Laura Toy's funeral protest legislation signed into law**

**June 22, 2006** – State Sen. Laura M. Toy, R-Livonia, (second from right) watches with colleagues as the governor ceremonially signs bills restricting demonstrations at funerals. Sponsored by Sen. Toy, Senate Bill 1229 was part of a package designed to shield funeral guests from the barbs of angry protesters. Under the new laws, protestors have to stay at least 500 feet away from a funeral service or risk prosecution under the state's disorderly conduct laws. The legislation is in response to a wave of protests at military funerals. Additionally, the new laws require protestors to apply for and be issued a permit from the local unit of government. A permit would not have to be issued if the service is on private property and one may be issued if the service is on public property.

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